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OUTLINE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN KOREA.

AUSTRALIAN DEPT. OF LABOUR AND NAT. SERVICE, PERTH

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THE POPULATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAS 27,184,000 IN 1963. AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE KOREAN WAR, HAS RECEIVED EMPHASIS THROUGH EXPORT PROMOTION, TAX REFORM, AND A STABILIZATION PROGRAM. A 6-YEAR FREE COMPULSORY EDUCATION IS SUPPLEMENTED BY "CIVIC SCHOOLS" AND "HIGHER CIVIC SCHOOLS" FOR ADULTS. PRIMARY EDUCATION IS FOLLOWED BY EITHER 3-YEAR MIDDLE SCHOOL OR TECHNICAL SCHOOL, FOLLOWED BY 3 YEARS OF ACADEMIC HIGH SCHOOL, VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, OR HIGHER TECHNICAL SCHOOL. ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR JUNIOR COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR TEACHERS COLLEGE. RESPONSIBILITY FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION IS DIVIDED BETWEEN OFFICE OF LABOR AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND COORDINATED WITH INDUSTRY THROUGH COMMITTEES. TRADE AND SEMISKILLED COURSES ARE GIVEN FOR 15 TRADES IN 306 VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS, AUGMENTED BY SIX TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTERS. TECHNICAL TEACHERS ARE TRAINED AT SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY. APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING, UNDER GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION, IS GIVEN IN 49 TRADES WITHIN INDUSTRY. ORGANIZED IN-INDUSTRY TRAINING IS NOT YET GOVERNMENT-PROMOTED. A NATIONAL PLAN FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING IS UNDER REVIEW. IT IS EXPECTED THAT IN THE NEAR FUTURE VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTIONS WILL BE SYSTEMATIZED AND CENTRALIZED BY LEGISLATION. (JM)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Outline of Vocational Training in KOREA

PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA FOR THE
PAN INDIAN OCEAN CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
PERTH, 1966

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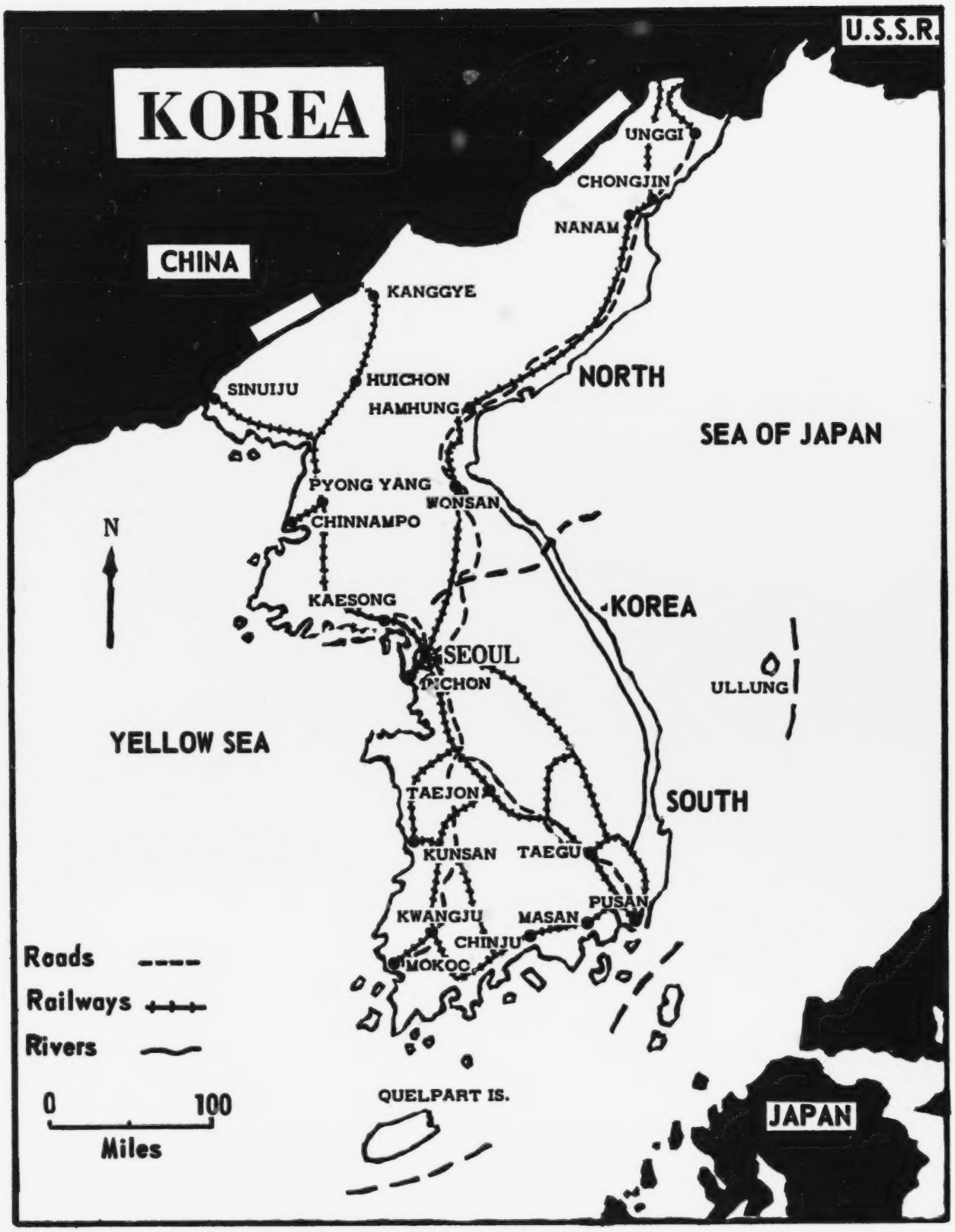
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1. Introduction

Area, Population

The Republic of Korea has an area of 98,431 square kilometers and a population of approximately 27,184,000 as at the 1963 Census.

Primary Industry

Of about 20,796 square kilometers of arable land in the southern part of Korea, nearly 20,469 square kilometers are under cultivation. The main crops are rice, barley, wheat, beans, tobacco, and cotton and it is hoped to achieve self sufficiency in agriculture by the end of 1966.

The raising of livestock, once a flourishing industry, was severely affected by the Korean War. However, the Government, with United Nations' assistance, is rapidly reviving this industry.

A nation-wide organization of co-operatives in agriculture and fishing has been established and an Office of Rural Development has been set up to extend agricultural services throughout the country.

Important deposits of coal and tungsten are mined but generally, Korea's mineral resources are limited.

Secondary Industry

Industrial production has been increasing steadily for several years and reached record levels during 1963. During 1964, however, there were shortages of raw material (mostly imported) and production remained more or less static.

The Government is encouraging greater use of domestic raw materials and the establishment of factories for fertilizers, cement, iron and steel, industrial chemicals, textiles and paper, should improve the situation.

Much of the industrial expansion taking place has been a result of foreign aid, but internal factors, such as Government protection of key industries and a series of good harvests which have increased the purchasing power of the rural population, have also made significant contributions.

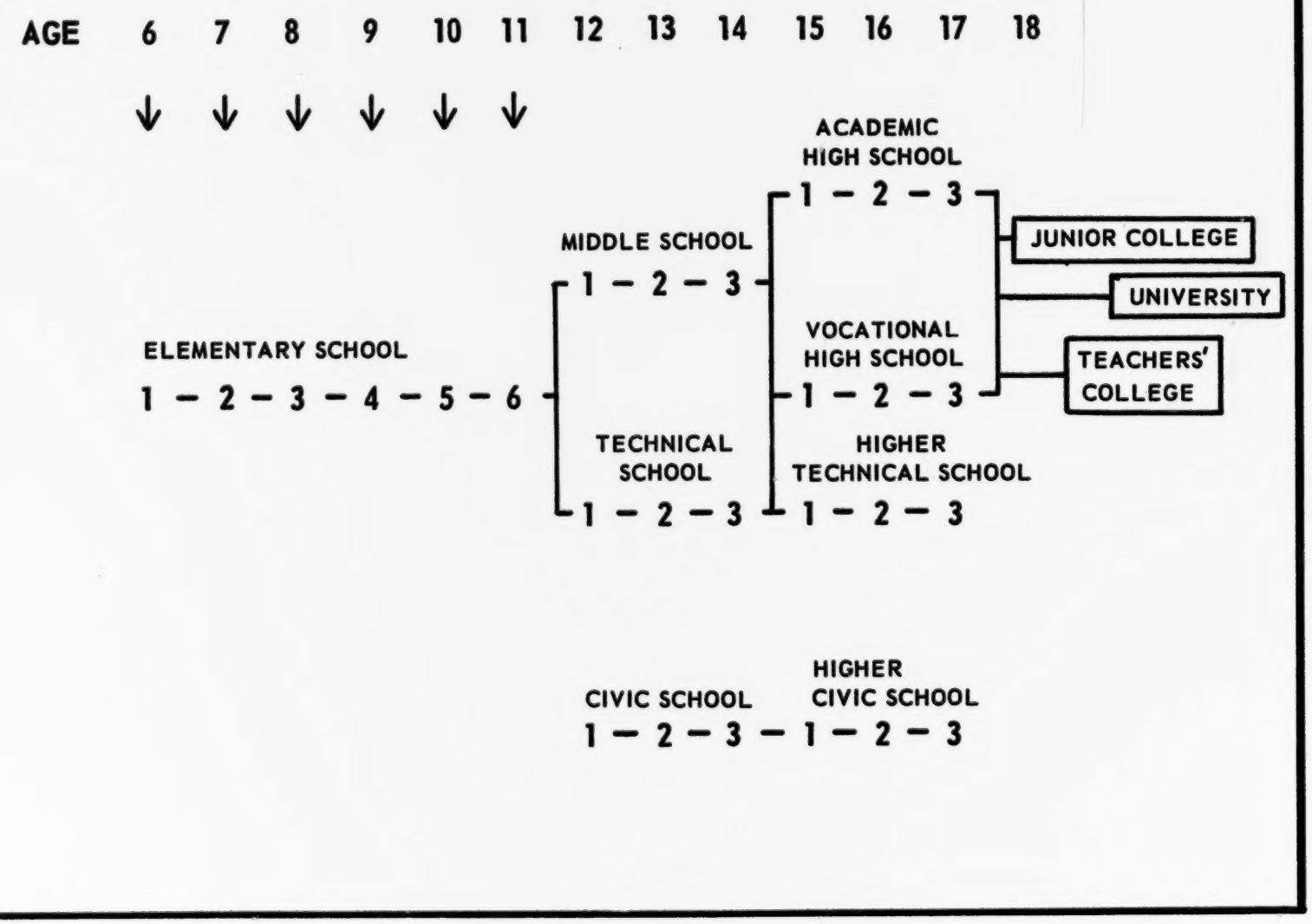
General Economic Development

The Five-Year Plan (1962-1966) emphasizes export promotion, tax reform, increased food production, industrial development, and a four-point stabilization programme to check inflation. The continued growth of exports has also been aided by devaluation and vigorous Government promotion. The coal mining, and chemical industries are gradually expanding, and the output of electrical power is increasing.

Unemployment and rising living costs are still major problems but it is hoped that the five-year plans will reduce them, lead to an increase in living standards and lay the foundation for future economic growth without foreign aid.

KOREA

STRUCTURE OF EDUCATION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VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
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HIGHER TECHNICAL SCHOOL
1 – 2 – 3
JUNIOR COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY
TEACHERS' COLLEGE
CIVIC SCHOOL
1 – 2 – 3
HIGHER CIVIC SCHOOL
1 – 2 – 3

2. General Education

The Ministry of Education is responsible for administering and financing education. It is assisted by Provincial Boards of Education and city education authorities.

Primary education extends over a six-year period from the age of six years and is free and compulsory. As some older youths and adults have not received a normal primary education, "civic schools" have been established to provide them with full-time primary education over three years. Provision is also made for up to three years of secondary education for adults at "higher civic schools".

After completion of the primary school course the student proceeds to either middle school or technical school. Students who attend technical schools may only go on to higher technical schools but those who have attended middle school may undertake a three-year high school course which may be academic, vocational (vocational or trade courses are available in areas such as agriculture, commerce, fishing and home economics) or higher technical. All high school graduates are eligible to proceed to junior or senior colleges, teachers' colleges or universities.

Although the educational authorities still have serious problems to overcome, considerable progress has already been made. Illiteracy has fallen from 78 per cent in 1945 to 11 per cent in 1962—one of the lowest rates in Asia. Of those in each appropriate age group in 1963, 92 per cent attended elementary school, 41 per cent attended middle school, 24 per cent attended high school, and 7 per cent attended university.

The problems which still exist include teacher and classroom shortages and classes of up to eighty pupils. These problems are so severe that many schools are forced to operate on two, three and even four shifts per day.

3. Technical Education

Organisation and Administration

The main responsibility for technical education in Korea is divided between the Office of Labour Affairs and the Ministry of Education. The Office of Labour Affairs bears the overall responsibility for vocational training and the Ministry of Education organises general technical education in schools. The Office of Labour Affairs is assisted by a Vocational Training Committee comprising government, employer and employee representatives which is at present the sole formal link between industry and education. There is no organised liaison between the Ministry responsible for economic planning and the various ministries responsible for vocational training.

Types of Institutions and Courses

Korean universities and technical colleges provide 130 four-year technical courses including navigation, mining, applied chemistry, applied physics and ten engineering courses. In 1964, 19,060 students were enrolled in these courses, representing about 18 per cent of total tertiary enrolments. In addition, there are a large number of two-year courses in similar fields which are given in junior colleges.

Vocational high schools and special training schools offer three-year trade and semi-skilled courses from the age of 15 in such trades as printing, plumbing, machining, electrical trades, carpentry, textiles and mining and in 1964, 162,666 students were taking these courses in 306 vocational schools. In addition the Government has recently set up six technical training centres within six vocational high schools to augment the shortage of skilled workers required under the Five-Year Technical Development Plan.

Arrangements for Technical Teacher-Training

Teachers for vocational high schools are trained by the Technical Education Department of the Seoul National University. Most of these

teachers complete a four-year course but agriculture and fishery teachers attend special training and retraining programmes which are held twice per year for four to eight weeks.

The Technical Education Department also conducts training programmes for practical shop teachers and instructors. These courses are held in various industries for a period of three months, three times per year.

In 1965 the technical teacher-training programme trained 380 teachers compared with 116 in 1962. However, there is still a marked shortage of qualified technical teachers throughout Korea.

4. Apprenticeship

The supervision of apprenticeship training in Korea is the responsibility of the Office of Labour Affairs but the actual training in the forty-nine designated trades is undertaken entirely within industry. The curriculum for each trade is organised without government control, the trade skill tests are designed and administered by industry and the final certificate of competence is awarded by industry.

Training for apprenticeship may begin at a minimum age of twelve years but any apprentice who commences training before attaining the age of eighteen years must be authorised by parental consent.

Because apprenticeship training is undertaken entirely within industry there is no need for any organized co-operation between technical education authorities and industry on the subject of apprenticeship.

5. Accelerated Vocational Training

The National Womens Job Guidance Centre, the National Boys Vocational Training Centre, the National Rehabilitation Centre, the Joint Relief Centre, and the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre offer accelerated courses ranging from six months to two years duration for widows, orphans, handicapped and war veterans respectively. The first three of these centre come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the latter two are under the Office of Veteran Administration.

Nearly two-thirds of the trainees gain employment soon after their training and the remainder are gradually absorbed into industry.

6. In-industry Training

There is as yet no central organisation to promote and develop in-industry training for semi-skilled and skilled workers. As a result, the apprentice training centres and in-plant training programmes for semi-skilled workers which have been established in a few of the larger undertakings are the only forms of organised in-industry training.

No up-grading takes place without formal training, and the Training Within-Industry Scheme for supervisors has not yet been introduced. However, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry does conduct management courses of from one week to five months duration at the Korean Productivity Centre.

Some of the larger establishments with training facilities employ either full-time or part-time training officers but there is no formal training scheme available for such officers.

7. National Planning for Vocational Training

To supply trained workers for the growth in industry expected from the First Five-Year Economic Development Plan, the Korean Government is reviewing the organization of vocational training. It is expected that in the near future vocational training institutions will be systematized and centralized by legislation. The Office of Labour Affairs will be responsible for implementing these proposals and will be assisted by a Vocational Training Committee. In addition co-ordinated formal and in-plant training programmes, national trade testing and certification, and uniform qualification requirements for instructors will be sought.